

**HOUSE
RESOLUTION No. ____**

Introduced by: Crosby

A RESOLUTION urging the legislative council to assign to the mental health commission the topic of guardianship services.

Whereas, In 1994, guardianship services were developed to assist Central State Hospital patients who were being released into the community;

Whereas, Between 1996 and 2001, referrals for guardianship services increased by over 42%, creating a significant waiting period before services could be received;

Whereas, Twelve persons died as they waited for guardianship services;



Whereas, Forty-three percent of current Indiana nursing facility residents have a diagnosed mental illness and approximately 50% of those require guardianship services; and

Whereas, The fiscal strain on the Medicaid budget will create an even greater need for guardianship services: Therefore,

Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

1 SECTION 1. That the legislative council is urged to assign to the
2 mental health commission the topic of guardianship services and to
3 require the commission to report to the General Assembly on its
4 findings by November 2002.

5 SECTION 2. That the commission, if assigned the topic, shall
6 issue a final report when directed to do so by the legislative council.

